

Amendments To The Specification:

In the English translation document, please add the section heading at page 1 line before written line 1, after the title, as follows:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is the US National Stage of International Application No. PCT/US2004/010176, filed April 01, 2004 and claims the benefit thereof. The International Application claims the benefits of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/460,326, filed April 4, 2003, both of the applications are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.--

In the English translation document, please amend the paragraph at page 2 beginning at written line 18, as follows:

Aspects of the present invention provide a method for rapidly producing a ceramic object having different material properties at selectable locations within the object. Laser energy may be used to sinter a ceramic powder. ~~By~~ By way of example, powder particle size, powder particle composition, and laser energy parameters may be selectively varied across regions of the object. This may be useful for producing ceramic mold shells having a core portion and an envelope portion, wherein the desired properties of the core and envelope are different.